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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 20 OCTOBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued between 1 and 15 October 1998 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 October 1998

1. In the northern region 83 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Zakho, Irbil, Tall Afar, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz, Kuysanjaq and Sarsank.

2. In the southern region 717 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Basrah, Shatrah, Qal'at Salih, Maymunah, Rifa'i, Kut, Mu'ayanah, Nukhayb, Jabal Sanam, Diwaniyah, Lasaf, Safwan, Amarah, Umm Qasr, Taqtaqanah, Hamzah, Ali al-Sharqi, Ali al-Gharbi, Abu Sukhayr and Amghar.

3. Ten violations were committed by TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour.

4. At 1115, 1120, 1130, 1200, 1225, 1530, 1654, 1700 and 1750 hours on 26 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qas

5. At 1010, 1100, 1105, 1715 and 1730 hours on 27 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.

6. At 1005, 1045 and 1120 hours on 28 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

7. At 1030, 1116, 1121, 1159, 1311, 1729 and 1744 hours on 29 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

8. At 1021, 1025 and 1255 hours on 30 September 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

9. At 1130 hours on 5 October 1998 a formation of United States aircraft brok the sound barrier over the Basrah area.

10. At 1005 and 1040 hours on 6 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

11. At 0905, 0910, 0915, 1050, 1145, 1635 and 1645 hours on 7 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

12. At 0910, 0920, 0925, 0945, 1050, 1210 and 1215 hours on 8 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

13. At 1045 hours on 8 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Nasiriyah area.

14. At 0943, 1110, 1115, 1142 and 1145 hours on 9 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

15. At 0905, 0907, 0934, 1028, 1055, and 1612 hours on 10 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr and Faw areas.

16. At 0912 and 1141 hours on 13 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

17. At 0915 and 0925 hours on 14 October 1998, United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over the Umm Qasr area.